

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the claim for priority inserted on page 1, between lines 5 and 6, by the Preliminary Amendment filed November 28, 2001 and the claim for priority submitted by the Amendment filed on November 3, 2003.

Please insert on the first line of the specification:

This application is a National Stage of International Application No. PCT/US00/14818, filed May 26, 2000, which was a continuation in part of U.S. Application No. 09/322,700, filed May 28, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,172,040.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 19, with the following paragraph:

The LF is immobilized on a naturally occurring substrate via the N-terminus region of the lactoferrin. Suitable substrates include proteins, polysaccharides, cellulose, nucleic acids, and nucleotides. Preferred substrates include collagen, gelatin, fibronectin, casein, mucin, heparan-sulfate, carrageenan, deoxyribonucleic acid, or adenosine triphosphate.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 35, with the following paragraph:

Other suitable biologically active substrates include proteins, such as collagen, denatured collagen (gelatin), fibronectin, and casein; polysaccharides, such as mucin, heparan-sulfates, and carrageenan; and nucleic acids and their nucleotides, such as deoxyribonucleic acid and adenosine triphosphate.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 2, with the following paragraph:

The inventive compositions comprise a defined dispersion. A "dispersion" includes an aqueous solution, an aqueous emulsion, a colloid, a suspension, a powder, or a granular solid that contains the *Im-LF*. A "defined dispersion" is dispersion made, blended, concocted, constructed, synthesized, or assembled of preselected ingredients or components, each in preselected amounts. Dispersion can be accomplished in various ways. A first way is that of a solution, most preferably an aqueous solution containing the *Im-LF*. A second way is that of an emulsion, i.e., a 2-phase system in which one liquid is dispersed in the form of small globules throughout another liquid that is immiscible with the first liquid. (Swinyard and Lowenthal, "Pharmaceutical Necessities" *REMINGTON'S PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES*, 17th ed., AR Gennaro (Ed), Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, 1985 p.1296). Aqueous emulsions containing a second hydrophobic liquid phase are preferred. A third way is that of a suspension of a solid phase containing the *Im-LF*, either dispersed within a liquid phase, such as a colloid suspension of *Im-LF*, or dispersed among other solids (e.g., microcrystalline suspension), the composition thus having the form of a powder or a granular solid. In various embodiments, such solid dispersions containing *Im-LF* can be applied to surfaces directly, for example by spraying or can be contained in pharmaceuticals such as tablets, capsules, ointments, or the like. Solid dispersions have obvious advantages with respect to storage and transport, and such solid dispersions containing *Im-LF* can later be suspended or dissolved in a liquid phase before use, as appropriate or convenient. Any of the solutions, emulsions or suspensions can be incorporated into capsules, or a microsphere or particle (coated or not) contained in a capsule.